

New York State FFA Leadership Training Foundation Board Meeting  
October 7, 2006  
FFA Camp Oswegatchie

The FFA Foundation Board meeting was called to order at 10:00 am by Chairperson William Stowell with the following members present; Art Berkey, John Fessenden, Vicky Gregory, Pat Hooker (10:07 a.m.), Terry Hughes, Alyson Jones-Brimmer, Travis Park, Bruce Rohr and Bert Spaeth. Also present was Perry Dewey (Agriculture Outreach Director), Todd Lighthall (Foundation Board Executive Director), Melvin Phelps (Governing Board Chairperson), Teddy McDougal (State FFA officer), Bill Ransom (Funding Director), and Bill Waite (Oswegatchie Camp Assistant Director). Absent director was Chike Nnabugwa.

Bert Spaeth gave the invocation.

Motion by Bruce Rohr, seconded by Bert Spaeth to dispense with the reading of the previous minutes. Motion carried 9-0.

Todd Lighthall reviewed and answered questions about the Treasurer's report. Motion by Pat Hooker, seconded by Bert Spaeth to accept the Treasurer's report. Motion carried 9-0. Todd Lighthall reviewed the Oswegatchie Educational Center financial reports. Motion by Terry Hughes, seconded by Bert Spaeth to approve the Oswegatchie Educational Center financial report. Motion carried 9-0.

Considerations to the agenda: Chairman's report will be after the Treasurer's report, shower house committee report will be deleted as it is elsewhere in the agenda, and under New Business the Pennies for Getman fund will be discussed.

Bill Stowell gave the Chairperson's report. Motion by Pat Hooker, seconded by John Fessenden to accept the report. Motion carried 9-0.

Standing Committee reports

*Sponsoring:* Pat Hooker gave a verbal report about the endowment fund.

*Funding:* Todd Lighthall talked about the Tractor Supply Sales program and the 2006 Funding update. Bill Ransom gave an update about the State Fair building project and distributed a funding brochure. Motion by Bruce Rohr, seconded by Allison Jones-Brimmer to accept the verbal funding report. Motion carried.

*Oswegatchie Education Center:* Vicky Gregory and Todd Lighthall gave a shower house update and showed a community center concept plan.

Marty Krause and Jeff Perry showed the Foundation board of directors some of the lumber that they had planed at the sawmill. They requested funding for planer dies. Motion by Bruce Rohr, seconded by Bert Spaeth to recess for lunch at 12:07 pm. Motion carried.

The meeting reconvened at 12:50 pm.

*Timber Management Plan:* Erik Hershey has suggested that there be a deer management plan as part of the timber management plan base of what is in existence and a spreadsheet of the long range plan for the next ten years. Pat Hooker will draft a motion about the issue.

*Summer Camp:* A written copy of the summer camp report was given to each director. Motion by Vicky Gregory, seconded by Bert Spaeth to accept the Oswegatchie Educational Center report. Motion carried 9-0.

Jerry Woodard, a former FFA Camp staff member, spoke to the Foundation board about the Master Forest owners program.

*FFA:* Allison Jones-Brimmer gave the FFA committee report. Motion by Allison Jones-Brimmer, seconded by John Fessenden to accept the report. Motion carried 9-0. Donna Moore gave the Agricultural Education Outreach update.

#### Other Reports

No State Education report.

*Cornell:* Travis Park gave an oral and written report about Cornell. Motion by Bruce Rohr, seconded by Bert Spaeth to accept the report. Motion carried 9-0.

*Postsecondary:* Terry Hughes gave an oral report about Postsecondary schools. Motion by Bert Spaeth, seconded by Allyson Jones-Brimmer to accept the report. Motion carried 9-0.

*Oswegatchie Educational Center Long Range Plan:* Vicky Gregory handed each board member a checklist of brainstorming ideas for the long range plan. Motion by Vicky Gregory, seconded by Bill Stowell to accept the committee report. Motion carried 9-0.

Bill Waite presented information about the Georgia FFA Leadership Center.

Unfinished Business: Board of Directors Policy handbook: Motion by Bert Spaeth, seconded by John Fessenden to lay on the table the board of directors' policy handbook until the February 2007 meeting. Motion carried 9-0.

Communications and Bills: Motion by John Fessenden, seconded by Pat Hooker to have the 1936 John Deere tractor that will be on display at the State Fair restored. Motion carried 9-0.

#### New Business

Motion by Art Berkey, seconded by Pat Hooker to approve the Career Development Event State Fair money going to the Foundation pending Governing Board approval. Motion carried 9-0.

The preliminary 2007 budgets were reviewed. Motion by Art Berkey, seconded by John Fessenden to accept the proposed budgets. Motion carried 9-0.

Motion by Vicky Gregory, seconded by Bert Spaeth to accept the Fordson tractor donation from Don Farrand and Darryl Foster. Amendment to the motion by Art Berkey, seconded by Pat Hooker to have the Foundation pay up to \$2000 for the restoration of the tractor. Motion carried 9-0. Motion as amended carried 9-0.

Terry Hughes asked a question about the budget.

Motion by John Fessenden, seconded by Allison Jones-Brimmer to have the Foundation proceed with the Satellite Internet proposal with the shared installation costs through Cornell University. Motion carried 9-0.

Motion by Vicky Gregory, seconded by Bert Spaeth that the New York State Leadership Training Foundation Board of Directors authorize the Oswegatchie Educational Center Director, Todd Lighthall, to contract, on behalf of the Foundation, to construct a new bathhouse and septic field as proposed by Wilbur Thesier, Engineer, for bathhouse plan number three for a cost not to exceed \$202,000. Bids and references to be reviewed and approved by the Oswegatchie Educational Committee. Funding to be allocation of \$100,000 reserve, borrowing the balance pending fundraising and is contingent upon obtaining commercial lending. Motion carried 9-0.

Motion by Bert Spaeth, seconded by Art Berkey to have the chairperson appoint a committee of four to set up a capital campaign for phase one and two of the long range plan. Motion to amend by Bert Spaeth, seconded by Art Berkey to take out the number four. Motion carried 9-0. William Stowell will contact each of the groups connected to agriculture to have their representation on the committee.

Motion by Vicky Gregory, seconded by Allison Jones-Brimmer to have the long range plan implemented with the items labeled priority one be reviewed. Motion carried 9-0.

Motion by Pat Hooker, seconded by John Fessenden to have a mason look at the Getman chimney and use the Pennies for Getman money. Motion carried 9-0.

Motion by Pat Hooker, seconded by Bert Spaeth to contact Erik Hershey to review the threat to our timber regeneration from deer. After his analysis is complete a plan should be developed by the Administrator which could include; 1). securing deer management assistance permits from DEC 2). securing a lease from a hunting club for hunting rights or 3). distributing hunting privileges on a free basis. Such plan would be approved at the February 2007 Foundation Board meeting. Motion carried 9-0.

Motion by Vicky Gregory, seconded by Bruce Rohr to go into executive session to discuss personnel matters. Motion carried 9-0. Foundation Board entered executive session at 4:05 pm. Motion to leave executive session by Pat Hooker, seconded by Bruce Rohr to leave executive session. Motion carried. Foundation Board left executive session at 4:17 pm.

Motion by Pat Hooker, seconded by Bruce Rohr to have the Foundation Board honor the contract with Todd Lighthall. Motion carried 9-0.

Motion by John Fessenden, seconded by Pat Hooker to have the Foundation pay the tuition and related expenses for Todd Lighthall if he so desires, to be in LEAD NY. Motion carried 9-0.

The Agriculture Outreach Program evaluation form was passed out to each director. Chairperson Stowell asked each director to look it over and give feedback about the survey form.

Bruce Rohr recommended that there be time limits put on agenda items, stated that the financial reports took one and a half hours and that board members should do their homework prior to the meeting, and that committees should meet so that the meeting is streamlined.

Motion by Art Berkey, seconded by Bert Spaeth to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried 9-0. Meeting adjourned at 4:35 pm.

Vicky Gregory, Secretary